

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-34 are currently pending in the present application, with claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 24, and 25 being amended, and new claims 26-34 being added. Reconsideration and re-examination of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being too indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claimed the subject matter which applicant records as the invention. Applicants have amended the claims and respectively submit that the claims amended are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agraharam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,471) in view of Yen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,724,918). This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims.

As previously communicated, the present invention is directed to a system and method for collaboratively composing and editing music data. More specifically, the present invention provides a system for facilitating communication amongst participating users to communicate with each other, and at the same time provides a control station for receiving composing data from the users and for composing music data in accordance with the composing data received from the various participating users.

As also previously communicated, Applicants respectively submit that the prior art cited do not disclose the users inputting music composing data and, more importantly, a control center that receives such composing data in user to compose a music piece. The Examiner responded, at the paragraph 27 of the Office Action, that the claims do not recite terms specific to music composing data or a music piece. Applicants have amended in the claims to more clearly claim the music

application aspects of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-25, amended, are not obvious in view of Agraharam and Yen.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims, as amended, is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes it will advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicants respectfully requests that Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions or concerns.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 393032021900. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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